

House Bill 363

By: Representatives Silcox of the 53<sup>rd</sup>, Reeves of the 99<sup>th</sup>, Kelley of the 16<sup>th</sup>, Crowe of the 118<sup>th</sup>, and Panitch of the 51<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 16-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 criminal trespass, so as to include gatherings for the purposes of religious worship and  
3 observance or acknowledging the death of an individual; to provide for related matters; to  
4 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 16-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to criminal  
8 trespass, is amended by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

9 "(f) A person commits the offense of criminal trespass when he or she knowingly and  
10 without authority enters and remains upon the land or premises of another person and  
11 willfully and maliciously interrupts or disturbs any assembly of people met or convened  
12 for purposes of religious worship or observance or for purposes of acknowledging the death  
13 of an individual in such a manner that a reasonable person would conclude that the person  
14 who commits the act is a threat to the safety of any person so assembled."

15

**SECTION 2.**

16 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.